

Mystical Union John Crowder

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The Evangelical Universalist Gregory MacDonald 2012-11-15 Can an orthodox Christian, committed to the historic faith of the Church and the authority of the Bible, be a universalist? Is it possible to believe that salvation is found only by grace, through faith in Christ, and yet to maintain that in the end all people will be saved? Can one believe passionately in mission if one does not think that anyone will be lost forever? Could universalism be consistent with the teachings of the Bible? In *The Evangelical Universalist* the author argues that the answer is 'yes!' to all of these questions. Weaving together philosophical, theological, and biblical considerations, he seeks to show that being a committed universalist is consistent with the central teachings of the biblical texts and of historic Christian theology.

Mystical Union John Crowder 2010-10-31

The Dawkins Delusion? Alister McGrath 2007-02-16 World-renowned scientist Richard Dawkins writes in *The God Delusion*: 'If this book works as I intend, religious readers who open it will be atheists when they put it down.' The volume has received wide coverage, fuelled much passionate debate and caused not a little confusion. Alister McGrath is ideally placed to evaluate Dawkins' ideas. Once an atheist himself, he gained a doctorate in molecular biophysics before going on to become a leading Christian theologian. He wonders how two people, who have reflected at length on substantially the same world, could possibly have come to such different conclusions about God. McGrath subjects Dawkins' critique of faith to rigorous scrutiny. This book will be warmly received by those looking for a reliable assessment of *The God Delusion* and the many questions it raises -- including, above all, the relevance of faith and the quest for meaning.

The Kaduna Mafia Bala J. Takaya 1987

The Fake Jesus: Fallen Angels Among Us Pamela Sheppard 2015-04-15 In 2007,

the author received a revelation that compared the church to a condemned building. Pam was asked, "would you put up curtains at the windows of a condemned building?" With that revelation came the understanding that the organized church was judged 3 decades ago. Not believing this word, Pam set out to disprove it by doing a study of church history. She also reviewed various occult, new age websites of mediums or channels who have been communicating with beings who first identified themselves as UFO's and then ultimately called themselves "ascended masters." The Fake Jesus is a record of what Pam discovered once she tried the spirits to see if they be of God. This book will open your eyes to the truth as to "who the fallen angels are, who sent them, what is their agenda, and how to recognize if your church is under their influence. The hour is late. This book has traced that fallen angels have been among us since about 1830. Don't YOU be deceived by a fallen angel.

Beyond Human Justin Paul Abraham 2016-06-01 We stand fully identified in the new creation renewed in knowledge according to the pattern of the exact image of our Creator (Col 3:10, MIR). There is a Voice calling us as a species back to the Blueprint of our Design. A Voice calling us out of ignorance into an expansive future beyond our wildest dreams. A future beyond the limitations of space and time, the mind and the physical body. A future "Beyond Human."

Money. Sex. Beer. God John Crowder 2019-07 A biblical companion to the happy life ... Learn how gnostic dualism invaded the early church, killed the party and taught you the world was evil. Exposing the lies of religious asceticism, John Crowder hits the controversial topics of cash, booze and nookie - stuff your pastor is scared to talk about!

Contemporary Perspectives on Religions in Africa and the African Diaspora Carolyn M. Jones Medine 2015-10-14 Contemporary Perspectives on Religions in Africa and the African Diaspora explores African derived religions in a globalized world. The volume focuses on the continent, on African identity in globalization, and on African religion in cultural change.

The Book of Proverbs Ted Hildebrandt 2010-11-23

Cosmos Reborn John Crowder 2019-07 Take a grace-centered look at regeneration, the new creation and the new birth. Christ cured the human condition. John's new book explores the universal scope of the cross - if one died for all, then all died! "For God was in Christ reconciling the cosmos to Himself." He has woven humanity into His divinity! Dispel the myth of a dark, schizophrenic god of religion. This book makes a scandalous case that the Father of Jesus Christ is in a good mood. Need a religious detox? Have a dose of happy theology on the new creation! Good news to liberate your life ... Though we opposed Him as "enemies in our minds," God never set Himself against us as our enemy. Adam was breathed from the very life of God, and it has always been the Creator's intent to restore humanity to the bliss and immortality of its divine origin. In the incarnation, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, God included you and absorbed the entire created order into Himself, bringing an end to decay and corruption. Mortality has been swallowed up by immortality.

The Ecstasy of Loving God John Crowder 2018-12-01 Ecstasy, or extasis, is the Greek term for trance, and is linked with a pleasurable, God-given state of out-of-

body experience recorded throughout the New Testament and the church age. Starting with the apostles ecstatic experiences on Pentecost, the Book of Acts further records trances in the lives of Peter and Paul. From the early church to the Christian mystics of the Middle Ages and the famous revivalists of centuries present, God's movements on the earth have always been marked by these supernatural experiences. In this book, John Crowder takes us on a journey from Old Testament ecstatic prophets such as Samuel and Elijah, to the future ecstatics who will usher in a massive wave of harvest Glory to the streets in these last days. God has always wanted a people who live in the Heavens, even as they walk on the Earth. And the world is hungry for the demonstration of a gospel of supernatural power that flows from a life of divine pleasure. More than a state of mind, you will see how the nature of God's ecstasy is found in the joy, bliss and inner raptures of His presence. In this book, you will be encouraged to drink from the river of His pleasure! (Ps. 36:8)

The New Mystics John Crowder 2005-01-01 Every era has produced extreme spiritual forerunners who have accessed the atmosphere of heaven, demonstrating miracles, signs, wonders and supernatural experiences in their lives. Beginning with the first century apostles, the extraordinary report of God's kingdom has passed like a baton to the early Desert Fathers, the Christian mystics of the Dark Ages, right up through the healing revivalists and prophetic voices of the past century. But God has reserved the greatest wave of his Spirit for a radical, postmodern generation that will walk the earth in these last days. The stories of long-forgotten saints are an arsenal for this hour. Not just tales of dreary nuns or dry theologians, but fiery men with divine encounters and heavenly visitations. Their individual lives serve as a blueprint for an entire company of warriors who will wear those same ancient power mantles, perform the same bizarre feats and achieve even greater exploits to bring in the end-time harvest of souls. What will be the characteristics of this new generation of mystics? In this timely work, John Crowder offers a fresh perspective on the miracle workers and visionaries of the past, linking their spiritual DNA to the breed of dread champions that is now picking up that baton. Who are the New Mystics? They are Joela's Army. Jacoba's Generation. The Spotless Bride. The Overcoming Church. The emerging church is throwing off the grave clothes of religion and picking up a dynamic interface with the spiritual realm. Their hearts are aflame with a burning desire for Jesus Christ. And they will not just talk about Him. They will display His power.

Mirror Bible Francois Du Toit 2013-03 People who have stopped reading the Bible or never even read it before say about The Mirror, "I have never read anything that touched me so deeply, it is a brand new Bible, I cannot wait to give it to all my friends!" The Mirror Bible is a paraphrase from the original Greek text. While the detailed shades of meaning of every Greek word have been closely studied, this is done taking into account the consistent context of the entire chapter within the wider epistle, and bearing in mind the full context of Jesus as the revealer and redeemer of the image and likeness of the invisible God in human form, which is what the message of the Bible is all about. To assist the reader in their study, I have numerically superscripted the Greek word and corresponded it with the closest English word in the italicized commentary that follows. This is to

create a direct comparison of words between the two languages. Many words used in previous translations have adopted meanings in time that distract from the original thought. Individual words can greatly influence the interpretation of any conversation. For years deliberate as well as oblivious errors in translations were repeated and have empowered the religious institutions of the day to influence, manipulate and even abuse masses of people. Consider the word metanoia, consisting of two components, meta, together with, and nous, mind, suggesting a radical mind shift. This word has always been translated as "repentance," which is an old English word borrowed from the Latin word, penance. Then they added the "re" to get even more mileage out of sin consciousness. Re-penance. This gross deception led to the perverted doctrines of indulgences, where naive, ignorant people were led to believe that they needed to purchase favor from an angry god. Most cathedrals as well as many ministries were funded with guilt money. The Bible is a dangerous book! It has confused and divided more people than any other document. Scriptures have been used to justify some of the greatest atrocities in human history. People were tortured, burned to death and multitudes murdered based on somebody's understanding of the scriptures! Jesus, Paul and believers throughout the ages faced their greatest opposition from those who knew the scriptures. If it is such a dangerous document, how does one approach the book? The Mirror unveils the Incarnation Code as the key that unlocks the mystery message of scripture. The romance of the ages is revealed here.

Jesus according to the New Testament James D. G. Dunn 2019-01-03 New Testament scholar James D. G. Dunn has published his research on Christian origins in numerous commentaries, books, and essays. In this small, straightforward book designed especially for a lay audience, Dunn focuses his fifty-plus years of scholarship on elucidating the New Testament witness to Jesus, from Matthew to Revelation. Dunn's *Jesus according to the New Testament* constantly points back to the wonder of those first witnesses and greatly enriches our understanding of Jesus.

The Seven Spirits of God D.W. Knight 2018-08-23 Since the writing of the Book of Revelation by the apostle John, there have been many books written about the Seven Spirits of God. The majority of them are based on Isaiah 11:2. In his book *The Seven Spirits of God: A New and True Revelation*, D.W. Knight shows how the full revelation of the Seven Spirits of God is not contained in Isaiah 11:2. You will also learn: How the revelation of the Seven Spirits of God is contained within the writing of the Book of Revelation. The identity and function of each of the Seven Spirits of God. How the Seven Spirits of God line up with the colors of the rainbow. About the principle of duality and how it connects to the Seven Spirits of God. How the Seven Spirits of God work in the life of the believer. What the purpose of the seven horns and seven eyes that are mentioned in connection with the Seven Spirits of God. How miracles, healing, mighty signs and wonders are connected with the true revelation of the Seven Spirits of God. *The Seven Spirits of God a New and True Revelation* is heavily based on the Word of God. With every point that is explained there is scripture to confirm it. If you are a person that loves to study the Bible and the teaching and revelation of the Holy Spirit, you will love the writing contained in this book.

Hyper-Grace D R Silva 2014-01-31 #1 Amazon Best Seller! In D. R. Silva's latest book, he once again challenges the giants of Christian tradition, confronting the popular assumptions, misconceptions and false accusations brought against the "the modern grace message." In this book, he tells you what is and isn't being said by those in today's "Grace movement," and answers some of the most common questions and concerns: Are followers in the "hyper-grace" movement really being told it's okay to sin and live immoral lives because we have grace? Do "hyper-grace" teachers believe that repentance and confession are has-been concepts only applicable under the Old Covenant? Do "hyper-grace" teachers hate the Law? Are they ignoring the words of Jesus? Or actually taking them seriously? Has God only forgiven your past sins, and left it completely up to you to get your future sins forgiven? Is this "doctrine" one step away from Universalism? In this short and practical book, you will get a basic understanding of the foundational ideas of "the modern Grace message." You will see that the "hyper-grace" teachings that are being opposed today are actually Biblical concepts found in scripture, and that this is the same Gospel Paul preached and defended passionately. This book also provides many scriptures to prove that it's actually the popular church traditions of today that are leading people into sin and deception, causing them to fall from Grace and become separated from Christ. Like all of the great reformations in the past, we have once again reached a vital fork in the road where we must make the choice of whether we will desperately cling to our old traditions (which Jesus warned, "nullify the word of God"), or if we will actually "test everything" for ourselves and consider whether or not this is the gospel of good news that our traditions have kept hidden from us for so long. Where we choose to go next will have a tremendous impact on the future of the church and the world, for many generations to come. Let us choose wisely then, not coming to conclusions impulsively! In a time where "balance" has become a huge spiritual buzzword, don't be led astray by unbalanced claims and religious propaganda.

High on God Matt Spinks 2019-03-08 This book offers revelation, history, and testimonies to usher the reader into a lifestyle of supernatural ecstatic experience through Jesus Christ.

The Everlasting Gospel of Christ Brian Christian 2020-06-22 The Everlasting Gospel of Christ is the summing up of Brian's journey and legacy. A love story from God's perspective, outside of time and space. Our earthly view of life will produce the illusion of lack, loss, and separation. Knowing our origin as spirit will enable our humanity to embrace every contradiction in life as affirmation. Everything you will read in this book has been tested through trial and error, loss and gain. This is a testimony of grace that has become an inheritance to many. Read it to encounter it. Look for yourself hidden in this book and you will experience grace and power to overcome many obstacles you are presently facing. It is a book for the mystic, the intellectual, the scientist and the philosopher. The Everlasting Gospel of Christ is about the journey of all humanity before time began. What motivated us to come to planet Earth, the reason we chose spiritual amnesia, and the unconditional love demonstrated through our weaknesses and failures.

Theology and Ecology Across the Disciplines Celia Deane-Drummond 2018-09-20 The threat of ecological collapse is increasingly becoming a reality for the world's

populations, both human and nonhuman; addressing this global challenge requires enormous cultural creativity and demands a diversity of perspectives, especially from the humanities. *Theology and Ecology Across the Disciplines* draws from a variety of academic disciplines and positions in order to explore the role and nature of environmental responsibility, especially where such themes intersect with religious or theological viewpoints. Covering disciplines such as history, philosophy, literature, politics, peace studies, economics, women's studies, and the ecological sciences as well as systematic and moral theology, the contributors emphasize how these positions have begun to develop distinct perspectives on urgent ecological issues, as well as pointing toward specific practices at the local and international level. This volume provides a multidisciplinary point of departure for urgent conversations on environmental responsibility that resist simplistic solutions. Rather, the contributors highlight the complex nature of modern ecology, and suggest creative ways forward in the situation of an apparently intractable global problem.

Blueprints to Union Brother Dominick 2016-12-03 Following in the Christian Mystical and Contemplative traditions of the teachings of the Desert Fathers, the Philokalia, and the Eastern Orthodox focus on Union, Theosis and Deification, Brother Dominick takes the reader through a set of five correspondences that lay out the way and methodology for the Union with God experience to manifest itself within and without. After over a decade of mystical transformations from the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, inner illumination by the blinding uncreated light, and various expeditions through the Dark Night of the Soul, Brother Dominick would eventually receive a set of Blueprints from a South African Christian Mystic Hermit which would help his odyssey into the manifestation of the Union with God experience. The Blueprints to Union eventually became a consolidation of the teachings of the Hermit and were in common with those of St. Francis of Assisi, Teresa of Avila, St. John of the Cross, Meister Eckhart, The Cloud of Unknowing, and various Mystics of Christian antiquity, all of whom had traversed the inner quest to finally sink into the Omnipresent Ocean of God. You are invited to partake in this Inner Journey, which is the birthright of the Soul. BrotherDominick.org

Do Christians Still Have a Sinful Nature?

Visions of Sadhu Sundar Singh of India Sadhu Singh 2012-05-14 The life of Sadhu Sundar Singh was most remarkable in its Christ-likeness. He was born amidst the depths of Indian culture and religion, and into a Sikh family. During the early part of his life, Sundar's mother would take him week by week to sit at the feet of a sadhu, an ascetic holy man, who lived some distance away in the rainforest. But with the death of his beloved mother when he was only fourteen years old, the young Sundar grew increasingly despairing and aggressive. His hatred of the local missionaries and Christians culminated in the public burning of a bible, which he tore apart page by page and threw, into the flames. Yet before long Sundar was intent on taking his own life. Sundar had arrived at a point of desperation: he had decided to throw himself under the Ludhiana express if God did not reveal to him the true way of peace. At three in the morning he rose from his bed and went out into the moonlit courtyard for the ceremonial bath observed by devout Hindus and Sikhs before worship. He then returned to his room and knelt down, bowed his

head to the ground and pleaded that God would reveal himself. Yet, nothing happened. He had not known what to expect: a voice, a vision, and a trance? Still nothing happened. And it was fast approaching the time for the Lothian express. He lifted his head and opened his eyes, and was rather surprised to see a faint cloud of light in the room. It was too early for the dawn. He opened the door and peered out to the courtyard. Darkness. Turning back into the room, he saw that the light in the room was getting brighter. To his sheer amazement, he saw not the face of any of his traditional gods, but of Jesus the Christ. . . . From here on the life of Sundar Singh became most Christ-like. Being unwilling to denounce his Master, it was not long before his family had rejected him. Sundar took the saffron robes of the sadhu and began a life of spreading the simple message of love and peace and rebirth through Jesus. He carried no money or other possessions, only a New Testament. He traveled India and Tibet, as well as the rest of the world, with the message that the modern interpretation of Jesus was sadly watered down. He visited the West twice, traveling to Britain, the United States, and Australia in 1920, and Europe again in 1922. With the large number of "spiritual paths" and "techniques", facing the world of today it is of special value to consider the life and insights of one who truly embraced the simplicity, love and freedom offered through devotion to Christ. "I am not worthy to follow in the steps of my Lord," he said, "but like Him, I want no home, no possessions. Like Him I will belong to the road, sharing the suffering of my people, eating with those who will give me shelter, and telling all people of the love of God." The Visions: Life Death Man Can Never be Destroyed What Happens at Death? The World of Spirits Sons of Light Sons of Darkness Death of a Child Death of a Philosopher Unseen Help The Correction of Error The Manifestation of Christ A Labourer and a Doubter The Judgment of Sinners A Good Man and a Thief Secret Sins Wasted Opportunities A Wicked Man Permitted to Enter Heaven The Spirit of a Murderer And The Spirit of the Man Murdered The Spirit of a Liar The Spirit of an Adulterer The Soul of a Robber The State of The Righteous and Their Glorious End The Death of a Righteous Man Comforting His Dear Ones The Mansions of Heaven A Proud Minister and a Humble Workman Heavenly Life The Aim and Purpose of Creation Names in Heaven Seeing God Distance in Heaven The Withered Fig Tree Is Man a Free Agent? The Manifestation of God's Love Please leave a review of this book, thanks.

The Naked Gospel Andrew Farley 2009-08-25 I found myself lying on the floor of my apartment, sobbing for hours on end: "God, I'm doing everything I'm supposed to do, and I still don't feel closer to you. In fact, I feel worse than ever! How could this have gone wrong? I can't see any way out. Help me." As a university student, Andrew Farley found himself physically and emotionally addicted to street evangelism and Bible study. Yet despite his fervid behavior, he knew something was missing. That something was an understanding of the gospel that is stripped of the compromises and clichés of the modern church. The Naked Gospel finds friends among those who are burned out on experience-chasing, ceremonialism, or legalism. It attacks churchy jargon and powerless ideas and puts forth a message that is simple but life-changing. With a fresh take on Scripture and unapologetic style, The Naked Gospel will challenge you and stir you to re-examine everything you thought you already knew.

Mystical Union John Crowder 2022-06-10 The gospel is a mystical message, based on an instant and effortless union with God achieved at Christ's cross. When you think of the cross, do you think of fun? If the answer is "no" then you have not been taught the cross aright. There is a delicious feast prepared for the believer. Nothing is more satisfying than the revelation of what Christ has conclusively accomplished for you. This book threatens to turn your Christianity upside down. No longer a struggle to please God -- the Truth will plunge you into a celebration of what He has done for you. With clear revelatory truths on the New Creation and the scandalous joys of the cross, *Mystical Union* promises to be one of John Crowder's most revolutionary, lifechanging works. The happy gospel of grace is about uninterrupted union with the Divine. This book lays out our most core beliefs. It promises to wreck your theology and cheer you up with undeniable Biblical truths on the free gift of perfection.

Chosen for Paradise John Crowder 2014-12-15 Reframing Election in Romans 9-11. In the Incarnation, God has united the human race to Himself. The doctrine of election has confused theologians for centuries like a dog chasing its own tail. Does God choose us, or do we choose God? Some believe that our own striving human willpower must somehow conjure up and maintain our own salvation. But how can we ever be certain that we have believed deep enough? Is it really up to us to save ourselves? To depend on my own decision for God? Others believe salvation is God's sovereign business from start to finish. But what about those who don't believe? Did God choose some to fry in their own fat forever in Hell? What if God's predestination is not about choosing some for bliss and others for destruction? Following the lead of the great theologian Karl Barth, John Crowder explores the volatile passages of Romans 9-11 to shed new light on the debated topic of election. God is not choosing one human over another. Jesus Christ is the chosen, elected man on behalf of all humanity. And you are fully included in Him.

The Universal Christ Richard Rohr 2019-03-05 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • From one of the world's most influential spiritual thinkers, a long-awaited book exploring what it means that Jesus was called "Christ," and how this forgotten truth can restore hope and meaning to our lives. "Anyone who strives to put their faith into action will find encouragement and inspiration in the pages of this book."—Melinda Gates In his decades as a globally recognized teacher, Richard Rohr has helped millions realize what is at stake in matters of faith and spirituality. Yet Rohr has never written on the most perennially talked about topic in Christianity: Jesus. Most know who Jesus was, but who was Christ? Is the word simply Jesus's last name? Too often, Rohr writes, our understandings have been limited by culture, religious debate, and the human tendency to put ourselves at the center. Drawing on scripture, history, and spiritual practice, Rohr articulates a transformative view of Jesus Christ as a portrait of God's constant, unfolding work in the world. "God loves things by becoming them," he writes, and Jesus's life was meant to declare that humanity has never been separate from God—except by its own negative choice. When we recover this fundamental truth, faith becomes less about proving Jesus was God, and more about learning to recognize the Creator's presence all around us, and in everyone we meet. Thought-provoking, practical, and full of deep hope and vision, *The Universal Christ* is a landmark book from one

of our most beloved spiritual writers, and an invitation to contemplate how God liberates and loves all that is.

Hyper-Grace Michael L. Brown 2014-01-07 At a time when the church needs an urgent wake-up call and a fresh encounter with Jesus, the hyper-grace message is lulling many to sleep. Claiming to be a new revelation of grace, this teaching is gaining in popularity, but is it true? Or is the glorious truth of grace being polluted by errors, leading to backsliding, compromise, and even the abandonment of faith?

The Arminian Magazine 1781

Stranger God Richard Beck 2017-11-01 When Richard Beck first led a Bible study at a maximum security prison, he went to meet God. His own faith was flagging, but Beck still believed the promise of Matthew 25, that when we visit the prisoner, we visit Jesus. With his signature combination of biblical reflection, theological reasoning, and psychological insight, Beck shows how God always meets us in the marginalized and the refugee. God comes to us in the poor, the crippled, the smelly.

Unbelievable John Shelby Spong 2018-02-13 Five hundred years after Martin Luther and his Ninety-Five Theses ushered in the Reformation, bestselling author and controversial bishop and teacher John Shelby Spong delivers twelve forward-thinking theses to spark a new reformation to reinvigorate Christianity and ensure its future. At the beginning of the sixteenth century, Christianity was in crisis—a state of conflict that gave birth to the Reformation in 1517. Enduring for more than 200 years, Luther's movement was then followed by a "revolutionary time of human knowledge." Yet these advances in our thinking had little impact on Christians' adherence to doctrine—which has led the faith to a critical point once again. Bible scholar and Episcopal bishop John Shelby Spong contends that there is mounting pressure among Christians for a radically new kind of Christianity—a faith deeply connected to the human experience instead of outdated dogma. To keep Christianity vital, he urges modern Christians to update their faith in light of these advances in our knowledge, and to challenge the rigid and problematic Church teachings that emerged with the Reformation. There is a disconnect, he argues, between the language of traditional worship and the language of the twenty-first century. Bridging this divide requires us to rethink and reformulate our basic understanding of God. With its revolutionary resistance to the authority of the Church in the sixteenth century, Spong sees in Luther's movement a model for today's discontented Christians. In fact, the questions they raise resonate with those contemplated by our ancestors. Does the idea of God still have meaning? Can we still follow historic creeds with integrity? Are not such claims as an infallible Pope or an inerrant Bible ridiculous in today's world? In *Unbelievable*, Spong outlines twelve "theses" to help today's believers more deeply contemplate and reshape their faith. As an educator, clergyman, and writer who has devoted his life to his faith, Spong has enlightened Christians and challenged them to explore their beliefs in new and meaningful ways. In this, his final book, he continues that rigorous tradition, once again offering a revisionist approach that strengthens Christianity and secures its relevance for generations to come.

Miracle Workers, Reformers and the New Mystics John Crowder 2006 *Miracle Workers, Reformers and the New Mystics* contains more than 70 photos,

illustrations, and biographies of men and women whose lives have demonstrated the phenomenal throughout the ages. Let their stories inspire you to join their ranks as part of this coming revival generation.

The Dangerous Doctrine Saul Landau 2019-06-18 Ever since President Truman invoked the words "national security" to launch the U.S. side of the cold war, government officials have used the phrase to explain, justify, or excuse executive actions that were dubious, illegal, or, as Senator Sam Ervin said during the Watergate hearings, "on the windy side of the law." National security does not simp

Biblical Literalism: A Gentile Heresy John Shelby Spong 2016-02-16 A global and pioneering leader of progressive Christianity and the bestselling author of *Why Christianity Must Change or Die* and *Eternal Life* explains why a literal reading of the Gospels is actually heretical, and how this mistaken notion only entered the church once Gentiles had pushed out all the Jewish followers of Jesus. A man who has consciously and deliberately walked the path of Christ, John Shelby Spong has lived his entire life inside the Christian Church. In this profound and considered work, he offers a radical new way to look at the gospels today as he shows just how deeply Jewish the Christian Gospels are and how much they reflect the Jewish scriptures, history, and patterns of worship. Pulling back the layers of a long-standing Gentile ignorance, he reveals how the church's literal reading of the Bible is so far removed from these original Jewish authors' intent that it is an act of heresy. Using the Gospel of Matthew as a guide, Spong explores the Bible's literary and liturgical roots—its grounding in Jewish culture, symbols, icons, and storytelling tradition—to explain how the events of Jesus' life, including the virgin birth, the miracles, the details of the passion story, and the resurrection and ascension, would have been understood by both the Jewish authors of the various gospels and by the Jewish audiences for which they were originally written. Spong makes clear that it was only after the church became fully Gentile that readers of the Gospels took these stories to be factual, distorting their original meaning. In *Biblical Literalism: A Gentile Heresy*, Spong illuminates the gospels as never before and provides a better blueprint for the future than where the church's leaden and heretical reading of the story of Jesus has led us—one that allows the faithful to live inside the Christian story in the modern world.

Grace, the Forbidden Gospel Andre van der Merwe 2011-03-29 If you've never been exposed to hearing the gospel preached by Paul the Apostle in its pure, undiluted form, this book might offend and possibly even anger you. The Gospel of Grace has been outlawed and frowned upon by most organized religious institutions. Take courage though, there is a generation of believers rising up in the earth whose eyes are opening to the truth of the gospel of grace - a wave of people that has grown fed up with the way that church is done: Either good news is preached with some guilt and manipulation mixed in, or church services take the form of well orchestrated shows. Many believers' entire lives are reduced to nothing more than a sin management program, running the endless treadmill of trying to please God by doing more for Him or trying to sin less. If you have been raised with religion, then understanding the gospel of grace may involve unlearning most of what you have learned through the years. It may initially feel as

though the carpet is being plucked from under your feet, but as the perfume of God's love rises and the truth of the Word begins to set you free, you will find yourself unable to resist the Father's romantic advances, drawing you into Himself for a deeper experience of who He is.

Seven Spirits Burning John Crowder 2010-10-31

The Devil's Redemption : 2 volumes Michael J. McClymond 2018-06-05 Will all evil finally turn to good, or does some evil remain stubbornly opposed to God and God's goodness? Will even the devil be redeemed? Addressing a theological issue of perennial interest, this comprehensive book (in two volumes) surveys the history of Christian universalism from the second to the twenty-first century and offers an interpretation of how and why universalist belief arose. The author explores what the church has taught about universal salvation and hell and critiques universalism from a biblical, philosophical, and theological standpoint. He shows that the effort to extend grace to everyone undermines the principle of grace for anyone.

Systematic Theology Wayne A. Grudem 2009-05-18 The Christian church has a long tradition of systematic theology, that is, of studying biblical teaching on centrally important doctrines such as the Word of God, redemption, and Jesus Christ. Wayne Grudem's bestselling Systematic Theology has several distinctive features: A strong emphasis on the scriptural basis for each doctrine Clear writing, with technical terms kept to a minimum A contemporary approach, treating subjects of special interest to the church today A friendly tone, appealing to the emotions and the spirit as well as the intellect Frequent application to life Resources for worship within each chapter Bibliographies in each chapter that cross-reference subjects to a wide range of other systematic theologies.

The Word and the Spirit Paul Cain 1999-06-01 In the past there have been those who live their spiritual lives by biblical explanation only. At the same time others have based their theological dispositions on "signs and wonders" characterized by the Pentecostal/Charismatic movement. Popular teachers Paul Cain and R.T. Kendall believe that God is on the brink of releasing an era of unprecedented glory as the people of God "marry" together both the Word and the Spirit.

Simple Prayer Charlie Dawes 2017-08-29 Are we making prayer more complicated than it needs to be? Helping us pare down our words to their most elemental level, Charlie Dawes has identified simple—yet far from simplistic—prayers that unlock the mystery of conversing with God. By focusing our prayers, we can find new a way of connecting with God at a heart level that cannot be mastered with words alone.

The Mystery of Christ-- and why We Don't Get it Robert Farrar Capon 1993 Looks at why individuals are not understanding the connection between Jesus Christ and their spiritual salvation